GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1249
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
IMPACT ON TOURISM IN J K .
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Deora Shri Milind Murli;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Geete Shri Anant Gangaram;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Kumar Shri Shailendra;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) The number of tourists visited Srinagar during the current year;

(b) Whether there has been any adverse impact on tourism in Jammu and Srinagar this year due to terrorist attacks on tourists in the State;

(c) If so, the facts thereof; and

(d) The corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a): As per the report of the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir 3,59,483 tourists including 10,317 foreign tourists have visited the Kashmir Valley up to 26th of July 2006 during the current year.

(b)&(c): The report also mentions that there has been a slight decline in domestic tourist traffic to the valley as compared to last year. Upto 26th of July 2006 3,49,166 domestic tourists visited the valley this year as compared to 3,65,818 during the same period last year. However, there has been a slight increase in foreign tourists arrival to the valley during the period. Upto 26th of July 2006, 10,317 foreign tourists visited the valley this year as compared to 9,777 during the period last year.

(d): The steps taken by the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir and Security Forces in an endeavor to make the security environment progressively safe for tourists include − deployment of separate tourist police and enforcement wing at Srinagar/Jammu and other tourist places to look after and protect the interests of the tourists; adequate deployment of Security forces/State police with regular patrolling and anti-sabotage checks around the tourist spots and roads leading to such places; permanent security arrangements at the Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi at Katra and its proximity; arrangement of special security arrangements for pilgrims visiting Shri Amarnath Ji Cave, Pahalgam and Kheer Bhawani; organising special FAM tours of travel trade from Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Hyderabad to Kashmir from 2nd to 6th of August 2006.